

By Senator Grant

308-974-99

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the judiciary; amending s.
3 20.031, F.S.; increasing the number of judges
4 in specified judicial circuits; amending s.
5 34.022, F.S.; increasing the number of judges
6 in specified county courts; amending s. 35.06,
7 F.S.; increasing the number of judges in
8 specified districts; providing for appointment
9 by the Governor; providing an effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13 Section 1. Section 26.031, Florida Statutes, as
14 amended by section 1 of chapter 97-257, Laws of Florida, is
15 amended to read:

16 26.031 Judicial circuits; number of judges.--The
17 number of circuit judges in each circuit shall be as follows:

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19 JUDICIAL CIRCUIT	TOTAL
20 (1) First.....	<u>20</u> 19
21 (2) Second.....	<u>13</u> 12
22 (3) Third.....	<u>6</u> 5
23 (4) Fourth.....	<u>30</u> 29
24 (5) Fifth.....	<u>22</u> 20
25 (6) Sixth.....	<u>39</u> 37
26 (7) Seventh.....	<u>22</u> 21
27 (8) Eighth.....	<u>11</u> 10
28 (9) Ninth.....	<u>35</u> 33
29 (10) Tenth.....	<u>19</u> 18
30 (11) Eleventh.....	<u>71</u> 70
31 (12) Twelfth.....	<u>18</u> 17

1 (13) Thirteenth.....35 ~~33~~
2 (14) Fourteenth..... 9
3 (15) Fifteenth.....32 ~~31~~
4 (16) Sixteenth..... 4
5 (17) Seventeenth.....49 ~~46~~
6 (18) Eighteenth.....22 ~~21~~
7 (19) Nineteenth.....15 ~~13~~
8 (20) Twentieth.....21 ~~20~~
9 Section 2. Section 34.022, Florida Statutes, as
10 amended by section 1 of chapter 97-257, Laws of Florida, is
11 amended to read:
12 34.022 Number of county court judges for each
13 county.--The number of county court judges in each county
14 shall be as follows:
15
16 COUNTY TOTAL
17 (1) Alachua.....5
18 (2) Baker.....1
19 (3) Bay.....3
20 (4) Bradford.....1
21 (5) Brevard.....7
22 (6) Broward.....25
23 (7) Calhoun.....1
24 (8) Charlotte.....2
25 (9) Citrus.....1
26 (10) Clay.....2
27 (11) Collier.....3
28 (12) Columbia.....1
29 (13) Dade.....41
30 (14) DeSoto.....1
31 (15) Dixie.....1

1	(16)	Duval.....	<u>14</u> 13
2	(17)	Escambia.....	5
3	(18)	Flagler.....	1
4	(19)	Franklin.....	1
5	(20)	Gadsden.....	1
6	(21)	Gilchrist.....	1
7	(22)	Glades.....	1
8	(23)	Gulf.....	1
9	(24)	Hamilton.....	1
10	(25)	Hardee.....	1
11	(26)	Hendry.....	1
12	(27)	Hernando.....	1
13	(28)	Highlands.....	1
14	(29)	Hillsborough.....	<u>14</u> 13
15	(30)	Holmes.....	1
16	(31)	Indian River.....	2
17	(32)	Jackson.....	1
18	(33)	Jefferson.....	1
19	(34)	Lafayette.....	1
20	(35)	Lake.....	2
21	(36)	Lee.....	6
22	(37)	Leon.....	<u>5</u> 4
23	(38)	Levy.....	1
24	(39)	Liberty.....	1
25	(40)	Madison.....	1
26	(41)	Manatee.....	3
27	(42)	Marion.....	3
28	(43)	Martin.....	2
29	(44)	Monroe.....	4
30	(45)	Nassau.....	1
31	(46)	Okaloosa.....	2

1	(47)	Okeechobee.....	1
2	(48)	Orange.....	14
3	(49)	Osceola.....	3
4	(50)	Palm Beach.....	17
5	(51)	Pasco.....	3
6	(52)	Pinellas.....	13
7	(53)	Polk.....	<u>8</u> 6
8	(54)	Putnam.....	<u>2</u> 1
9	(55)	St. Johns.....	2
10	(56)	St. Lucie.....	3
11	(57)	Santa Rosa.....	2
12	(58)	Sarasota.....	4
13	(59)	Seminole.....	5
14	(60)	Sumter.....	1
15	(61)	Suwannee.....	1
16	(62)	Taylor.....	1
17	(63)	Union.....	1
18	(64)	Volusia.....	9
19	(65)	Wakulla.....	1
20	(66)	Walton.....	1
21	(67)	Washington.....	1

22 Section 3. Section 35.06, Florida Statutes, is amended
23 to read:

24 35.06 Organization of district courts of appeal.--A
25 district court of appeal shall be organized in each of the
26 five appellate districts to be named District Court of Appeal,
27 District. The number of judges of each district court of
28 appeal shall be as follows:

- 29 (1) In the first district there shall be 15 judges.
- 30 (2) In the second district there shall be 14 judges.
- 31 (3) In the third district there shall be 11 judges.

- 1 (4) In the fourth district there shall be 12 judges.
- 2 (5) In the fifth district there shall be 10 ~~9~~ judges.

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The successors of the original and additional judges of the district courts of appeal shall be elected at the general election next preceding the expiration of their respective terms of office to serve for full terms of 6 years.

Section 4. The judges filling new offices created by this act shall be appointed by the Governor and shall take office on the first Monday in July, 1999.

Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

SENATE SUMMARY

Increases the number of judges in specified counties, circuits, and districts. Provides that judges filling the new positions will be appointed by the Governor and will take office in July, 1999.